

29 September 1975

OLC 75-2590

Briefing
for Cong Rel

MEMORANDUM

SUBJECT: Briefing of Congress on CIA's Mail Intercept Program

1. The following is a note on the cover sheet transmitting a memo by the Inspector General to Mr. Colby on potential flap activities:

"This Memo was gone over in detail by Senator Symington (26 May 1973), Congressman Nedzi (23 May 1973) and summarized with Senator Stennis (29 May 1973) WEC"

Included in the memo was the following:

"Since 1953, the Office of Security has operated a mail intercept program at various times, [REDACTED] C

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[REDACTED] The bulk of the take involved matters of internal security interest which was disseminated to the Federal Bureau of Investigation. This program is now in a dormant state pending a decision as to whether the operation will be continued or abolished."

STATINTL

2. On 2 June 1975, Deputy Legislative Counsel, [REDACTED], met with Chairman Lucien N. Nedzi, Special Subcommittee on Intelligence, House Armed Services Committee and reviewed with him IG material updating the information reviewed by Mr. Nedzi in May 1973. Included in the IG update report was the following:

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"There were a total of 56 cases in which there was general mail cover, [REDACTED]"

3. On 15 July 1975, Mr. Colby again reviewed the IG report mentioned in paragraph 1 above to Senator Symington.

4. On 8 January 1975, the Director, William Nelson, John Warner and I met with Messrs. James Calloway and Guy McConnell, Senate Armed Services Committee staff, to brief them on all the facts relating to recent press allegations of "massive domestic intelligence activities" on the part of the

Agency: The meeting lasted approximately two hours. The briefing was given in the main by the Director and covered the developments which led up to the identification of the "skeletons" and then dealt with the facts bearing on the recent press allegations and a briefing on the "skeletons" themselves. (It is opined that the IG report and update referred to above was used for this discussion.)

5. On 9 January 1975, the same discussion as paragraph 4 above, apparently took place with Frank Slatinshek, Jack Boos and William Hogan of the House Armed Services Committee.

Distribution:

Original - attach to Journal - 29 Sept.

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